

The
Army Education Center
at the
McEwen Library and
Education Complex

Hours of Operation

Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, and Friday

0900-1600

Wednesday

1245-1600

(315) 772-6878



The Fort Drum
Education Center
Mountain Climber

Garrison Commander
COL Emory R. Helton

Director, Directorate of
Plans,
Training and
Mobilization
LTC Alan D. Fessenden

Education Services
Officer
Carla K. Ortiz

Editor
Joseph A. Agresti

On the Education Services Officer's Desk

Every November, the week prior to Thanksgiving, we celebrate American Education Week. Further on, in this edition of the *Mountain Climber*, you will read about the events that are planned at the Fort Drum Education Center in observance of the many contributions to Army education.

I spent much time reflecting on what to say about American Education Week in this article. I looked at the history of American Education and did not find it to be a riveting topic, although important to many educators around the world. I studied different education-related websites and found much on education in the public schools, but not much to hold the attention of the average adult reader. I then stumbled upon some quotes about education. I'm always a soft touch for the posters that you see in magazines with inspirational quotes. So let me inspire you with some of the quotes that I have discovered.

"The end of all education should surely be service to others." - Cesar Chavez, Civil Rights Activist

"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire." - William Butler Yeats, Poet

"Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one." - Malcolm Forbes, Financier

"Education is the vaccine for violence" - Edward James Olmos, Actor



"Education is the transmission of civilization. Civilization is not inherited; it has to be learned again by each new generation." - David Kearns, Former Chair, Xerox Corporation

After reading the varied quotes on education, I wondered what our soldiers' thoughts were about the importance of education to themselves and the world. Here are some of the responses that I received from soldiers availing themselves of our services.

"Education keeps ignorance out of the world. Education makes your life experiences better." - SGT Christopher Straw, B Btry, 3-6 FA

"Knowledge is power."
- SGT Domingo Moreno, B Co 710 MSB


"I need it for promotion and to know my job better. Education makes life easier to survive."
- CPL Jason Landry, 2-10 AVN

"Education is important so that history doesn't repeat itself"
- CPL Robert Russo, DET 1-81 INF, ARNG

"It's important because the world is changing, with advances in technology, transportation, environment, and new diseases. We need to have education [in order to understand] and live in our world." - CPT Everetta Davis, 2-10 AVN

I encourage you, in celebration of American Education Week, to take some time to reflect on the importance of education in your life. I invite you to visit the Education Center, talk with an Army Counselor, and discover the many educational opportunities available to you on Fort Drum and in the area. The Education Center is located in Building P 4300, Camp Hale Road; near the Pine Plains Complex, telephone 772-6878.

Carla K. Ortiz
Education Services Officer

Education Center News

Education Center Celebrates American Education Week 17-23 November 2002

November 17-23 will mark the 81st annual observance of American Education Week - a time of national effort to raise public awareness of the importance of education.

The observance traces its roots to a meeting between the American Legion and the National Education Association (NEA) following World War One. The 1919 conference met to generate support for public education, an institution that both organizations found wanting, having produced an army that fought 'the war to end all wars' while 25% of its draftee ranks were illiterate, 29% were physically unfit. The goal was to make public schools the start point for improving the education of all Americans. Since 1929, the NEA has conducted a campaign celebrating education under a national theme; this year's theme nationally - "Making Public Schools Great for Every Child" - reflects a commitment to all students. The Army's refinement - "An Army of One, Education for All" highlights education's role as a force multiplier.

The Army Education Center will observe American Education Week by hosting a number of events and activities. Focusing on November 19th, the Education Center will host an Educational Fair from 1200-1600 hours at the McEwen Library and Education Center Complex, 4300 Camp Hale Road. Everyone is invited to join us for refreshments and talk with representatives from the Education Center, the SUNY Colleges of the North Country, the Department of Veteran's Affairs, ROTC Green to Gold and several of our new eArmyU partner

colleges. These professionals look forward to helping you develop a plan to meet your educational goals.

Come to the Education Center and see what exciting things are happening and participate in our celebration of education. All week long we will sponsor a contest, which will test your knowledge of "Army Continuing Education System Trivia." Prizes will be awarded for the correct answers. For further information contact your Education Center staff at 772-6878.

To quote Tom Brokaw, "Here is a place in America to take a stand; it is public education. It is the underpinning of our cultural and political system. It is the great common ground. Public education after all is the engine that moves us a society toward a common destiny....It is in education that the American dream begins to take shape."

Diane Smith
Army Guidance Counselor

Education Updates

100% Tuition Assistance - effective 1 Oct 2002

•


VA accelerated payments for High Technology Programs - effective 1 Oct 2002

•

eArmyU changes - effective 1 Oct 2002

•

Come see an Army Education Counselor !

Exploring Alternatives- Vocational and Technology Based Opportunities

Not everyone is suited for, or wishes to attend, college. For these individuals, vocational-technical education offers an alternative educational path. Most of these programs can be completed in less than two years at a college or technical school. They meet the need of the student and the career market for qualified technicians that bring to the fore an individual's skills at the practical. These skills, learned or enhanced through technical education programs, can be as rewarding as any gained through traditional education.

Interested in business? There are over 6,500 vocational school programs designed to prepare you for the white collar world - from accounting to travel-tourism management, there are a variety of business oriented careers available.

Health care, your thing? As the population and longevity increases, the need for health care practitioners will too. Over 3,500 health care focused vocational and technical school programs are set to put you on this critical path - from practical nursing to emergency medical technician, from physical therapist assistant working with the disabled, to veterinary assistant aiding our animal companions, each provided a wide array of employment opportunities.

Outside of health care, the fastest growing career field is technology. It touches our daily lives from on line banking and shopping to word-processing. If you are interested in how computers streamline our lives, or how these electronic systems work, you might be interested in a career in high technology. The number of technical school and vocational programs supporting technology is growing. Whether you're interested in air traffic

control, data processing or cracking that computer case and probing the innards of your home computer, or surveying, or waste water technology, there's a vocational program to fit your need.

Still haven't found anything of interest? Then you may want to consider a career in the trades. If you are one of those individuals that gleefully approach getting into the nuts, bolts and grains of a project, you might want to consider a career in auto technology, or one of the construction trades - carpentry, electrical, or plumbing - or the high technology side of law enforcement. There are nearly 6,000 vocational-technology based school programs to launch you into one of these fields, many linked to union apprentice programs.

Do you see yourself in back of a stage or designing the cover for the next Sheryl Crow album? Then a career in graphic, visual and performing arts may be your ticket. Look into a vocational or technical school program that is designed to highlight and broaden your creativity.

If personal service, from cosmetology and nails to mortuary service, appeals to you, there are over 3,500 programs that can help you turn these interests into a steady paycheck.

Finally, if you have a skill you've earned through military service and want to teach in one of these centers of vocational-technology schooling, look into the field of vo-tech education; many states have established programs to parlay your skills into instructor positions at one of the thousands of centers nationwide.

If you are interested in the expanding field of vocational and technology oriented education, come see an Army Education Counselor to begin your search.

Diane Turo-Hughes
Army Guidance Counselor



Distance Learning as an Option

Distance Learning ?
What does this term mean?

Let's take a look at what the dictionary defines as distance. Distance according to Webster can mean the condition of being apart in space and time. Distance can also mean the degree of progress between two points in a course. Learning, according to the same source, is education or acquired wisdom, knowledge, or skill. At its most basic level, distance education takes place when a teacher and student(s) are separated by physical distance, and technology (i.e. voice, video, email, and print), often in concert with face-to-face communication, is used to bridge the instructional gap.

The primary role of the student is to learn. Under the best of circumstances, this challenging task requires motivation, planning, and the ability to analyze and apply the information being taught. In a distance learning setting, the process of student learning is more complex. To be successful, distance learners must meet the following characteristics:

“ Becoming and staying responsible for themselves”. High motivation is required to complete distance learning

courses because the day-to-day contact with teachers and other students is typically lacking.

“Owning one’s strengths, desires, skills, and needs”. Distance learners need to understand their strengths and limitations and, aided by technology, match them to their goals.

“Maintaining and increasing self confidence”. A key factor in success in distance learning is the student's ability to balance the priorities of work, family, and study. Student performance is enhanced if learners set aside time for their instructional activities and if they receive family support.

“Working with others”. When students are unable to meet together, appropriate interactive technology such as E-mail should be used for communication.

“Clarifying what is learned”. Distance students need to reflect on what they are learning. They need to examine the existing knowledge zones in their heads and how these are being added to or changed by incoming information.

“Redefining what genuine knowledge is”. Adult learners may find it difficult to accept that their own experience and reflections are legitimate knowledge. Distance learners must claim ownership of personal values, experience, and insights.

Now that we have looked at what attributes a successful distance learner needs, the next question is - how can you identify a program to help reach your educational goals? Research comparing distance education to traditional face-to-face instruction indicates that teaching and studying at a distance can be as effective as traditional instruction. But without exception, effective distance education programs begin with careful planning and a focused understanding of course requirements and your needs. When looking for a distance learning program, you must evaluate the entire package including faculty, administrators, facilitators, and support staff.

Program advantages

- Earn credit wherever you’re stationed.
- Study when your schedule permits.
- Match your educational needs; technical, vocational, or high school through graduate school.
- Increase your promotion potential and prepare yourself for higher pay by taking the courses you need when you need them.
- Receive tuition assistance.

There are many excellent resources available at the Education Center or online to help you find the right distance learning program for you. Two of these resources are the DANTES Distance Learning program website, providing a wide range of nontraditional education programs at both undergraduate and graduate levels, and the newly updated eArmyU website, listing over 20

institutions and 100 degree plans. Both of these sites provide other links to other programs and schools that can be completed totally through distance learning.

Please visit your Army education counselor for more information on distance learning.

Les Barbour
Army Guidance Counselor

Web sites on these subjects

Distance Education -

[www.petersons.com/distance learning](http://www.petersons.com/distance%20learning)

www.collegedegree.com

www.degree.net

Military Credit

AARTS Transcript Homepage

<https://aartstranscript.leavenworth.army.mil/>

Prior Service Navy and Marine Corps - Soldier Marine ACE Registry Transcript - SMART

<http://smart.cnet.navy.mil/>



Using Your Military Experience

Lifelong learning is an important component of career growth and success - and the military supports such growth through training, occupations, and course work that help service members build valuable knowledge and experience. Service members invest much of their time in military training courses and in their occupations, which can help them earn academic credit and achieve degrees from colleges and universities.

For almost 60 years, the American Council on Education (ACE) Military Programs department has been translating military courses and occupational learning outcomes into academic credit. In doing so, they have assisted service members and veterans of all services to further their education and further their careers while on active duty and once separated. They also assist college and university officials and transcript evaluators in granting academic credit to service personnel who enroll in their institution.

As a current service member or veteran, you may be able to benefit from the services of ACE's military programs. Their goal is to help you gain college credit for your military experiences. ACE evaluation teams provide clear guidelines to interpret and recommend college credit for formal service school courses, demonstrated performance in occupational specialties, and college level tests. ACE's credit recommendations help college and university admissions officials evaluate the experiential knowledge you have gained through military service. They use the recommendations as guidelines only, and they are subject to that particular institution's internal policies and

practices on the award of credit and on how those military experiences apply to your chosen program of study.

Military Courses that ACE evaluates

ACE evaluates and recommends credit for the following courses:

- Formal, resident courses offered by the active and reserve components of the Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, and selected Air Force courses.
- Courses that are at least 45 academic contact hours in length since 1981, at least 60 contact hours between 1973 and 1980, and at least 90 academic contact hours prior to 1973.
- Correspondence courses offered by the Air Force, Coast Guard, and Marine Corps that feature proctored end-of-course examinations.

Military Occupations that ACE evaluates

In addition to formal course work, Military Programs evaluates military occupations and the job-specific skills that service personnel and veterans have gained. ACE evaluates and makes credit recommendations for the following occupational specialties:

- Army enlisted and warrant officer military occupational specialties (MOSs).
- Navy rates, ratings, warrant officer, limited duty officer specialties, and selected NECs.
- Coast Guard enlisted ratings, warrant officer specialties and officer aviator designations.
- Selected Marine Corps MOSs.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I get college credit for my military experience?

If you are still in the service, visit your Education Center for assistance. If you are a

veteran, you should contact the registrar, admissions officer, or transcript evaluator at your specific college and ask about the policies and documentation required for evaluation.

What if I can't find copies of my records?

Copies of your discharge papers, DD214, are available by contacting the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), 9700 Page Avenue, St. Louis, MO 36112. You will be required to submit name, social security or service number, date of birth, and service dates. Your request might take up to six months to complete. This should list your formal training. Many colleges will accept the DD214, supplemented by course completion certificates or AARTS records.

What is AARTS?

AARTS is a transcript that lists military course work and occupational specialties for active duty and reserve component soldiers. AARTS is a partnership between the Army and the ACE that provides an accessible official transcript drawn directly from personnel records. AARTS, short for Army/American Council on Education Registry Transcript System, based at Ft Leavenworth KS and routinely databases personnel records against the ACE recommended credit to assist service members in obtaining credit for their military service. The transcripts are designed to provide an official transcription of military training and experience, supplement a resume, or provide a concise description of the skills and responsibilities a soldier-veteran acquired while serving.

Where do I get an AARTS transcript?

Both personal and official copies may be sent from the AARTS website

<https://aartstranscript.leavenworth.army.mil/>

or by completing a paper request DA Form 5454R and submitting by mail or fax. Official copies will be sent directly to the university, college or employer specified on the site or form. DA 5454Rs are available at your Army Education Center.

There is no cost associated with providing the AARTS.

What colleges will accept my AARTS college recommendations for my military experience?

Studies by ACE show that most colleges and universities have a policy or practice permitting the recognition of ACE's credit recommendations for military training and experience. Of course, colleges will review every case individually, based on those policies for credit transfer, your specific program of study, and the requirements for that degree.

Can my AARTS transcript be used to award promotion points?

AARTS credit recommendations may be applied towards promotion only **after** a recognized college or university has accepted the credit and posts the awarded credit to its official college transcript.

Visit your Education Center for more information.

Kerry Parker
Army Guidance Counselor



SCOREBOARD

Students Briefed

462

Students Counseled

412

Student Participation Agreements Signed

382



MOUNTAIN CLIMBER



Volume 1, Issue 6

FORT DRUM

November 2002

FORT DRUM EDUCATION CENTER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

" Army Education Week "

... page 2-3

SUNY Updates

... page 4

Education for all



An Army of one



SUNY COLLEGES IN THE NORTH COUNTRY



Advisors, advising, advice

Interested in college? Not sure where to begin? The SUNY College Office can help. We've got college advisors here at Fort Drum available by appointment for Jefferson Community College, SUNY Empire State, SUNY Oswego, and SUNY Potsdam.

Jefferson Community College

Mr. Donald Johnson is the full time advisor and Program Coordinator for JCC here at Fort Drum. Don has been in this position for six years and comes well prepared, having been an Army Education Counselor for fourteen years. We are also fortunate to have a second JCC advisor, John Trumbull. John is returning to our office after a year of active reserve duty. Both Don and John are thoroughly familiar with the military and are great assets to our office.

SUNY Empire State College

Fort Drum's SUNY Empire State College office provides three faculty/advisors for students working on their degrees here on post. In addition, there are three faculty/advisors in the Watertown offices of the college. The Fort Drum unit consists of Dr. Joanne Corsica, Site Coordinator and Professor of Social Theory, Structure, and Change, mentoring students interested in sociology, anthropology, criminal justice, human services, and Native American Studies; Dr. Marina Privman, Professor of Science and Math, and Technology; and Mr. Larry Reynolds, Professor of Business, Management, and Economics. These individuals provide academic counseling services Monday through Thursday in addition to teaching in their respective areas of expertise. For more information about the Fort Drum ESC unit call 773-6139.

The Watertown unit is comprised of Dr. Frances Mercer, Unit Coordinator and Professor of Community and Human Services and Rehabilitation Education; Dr. Maureen Kravic, Professor of English; and Mr. Paul Archibald, Professor of Business. For more information on the Watertown unit call 785-2418.

SUNY Oswego

Mr. Larry Mayo is our North Country/Fort Drum representative/advisor for SUNY Oswego. In addition to advising for the Master's program in Counseling & Psychological Services, Larry

advises students interested in the B.A. in Public Justice and the B.S. in Business Administration (all taught in the Ft Drum/Watertown area .) Larry is available at Fort Drum on Monday mornings and JCC Monday afternoons. Call 773-9018 for an appointment.

SUNY Potsdam

Mr. Thomas Yousey is the Teacher Education Coordinator for Potsdam in the Fort Drum/Watertown area. Tom is available to advise those interested in pursuing careers in education. He is the academic advisor for all Potsdam graduate students in the tri-county (Jefferson, Lewis, and Oswego) region. In addition, he acts as the initial point of contact for anyone interested in pursuing a graduate or undergraduate degree through SUNY Potsdam.

He has regular office hours at the Education Center on Wednesdays and Fridays. Appointments can be made by contacting the SUNY office at 773-4122. Tom will make special prior arrangements for appointments on other days.

Still not sure ?



Wanda Lancaster, the Director of the SUNY Colleges in the North Country, is available to discuss your options and provide general information about the member colleges. Please call 773-9007 for an appointment.

SUNY Advisors

Jefferson Community College Mr. Donald Johnson
772-5477

Empire State College Dr. Joanne Corsica
773-6139
Dr. Marina Privman, Mr. Larry Reynolds

Potsdam Mr. Tom Yousey
773-4122

Oswego Mr. Larry Mayo
773-9018

Director, SUNY Colleges of the North Country
Ms. Wanda Lancaster 773-9007

SPRING 2003 Jefferson Community College

Early Spring Classes at Fort Drum 1/21-3/12/03

ACC101 811	Accounting Principles I	M/W 6-9:35pm	4cr
BIO 105 811	Environmental Biology	M/W 6-9:00pm	3cr
CIS 110 811	Intro. to Computers	M/W 6-9:35pm	3cr
CRJ115 811	Criminal Law	M/W 6-9:00pm	3cr
ENG099 081	Basic English	M/W 6-9:00pm	3cr
ENG100 811	Composition 1	M/W 6-9:00pm	3cr
ENG101 811	Composition 2	M/W 6-9:00pm	3cr
ENG102 811	Composition & Literature	M/W 6-9:00pm	3cr
NET 100 811	Networking Fundamentals	M/W 6-9:00pm	3cr
SOC144 811	Intro. to Sociology	M/W 6-9:00pm	3cr
BUS104 811	Personal Finance	TuTh6-9:00pm	3cr
CIS110 812	Intro. to Computers	TuTh6-9:35pm	3cr
CIS 116 811	Intro. to Programming	TuTh 6-9:35pm	3cr
CRJ 208 811	Issues in Criminal Justice	TuTh6-9:00pm	3cr
ECO101 811	Macroeconomics	TuTh6-9:00pm	3cr
HIS111 811	Western Civilization 1	TuTh6-9:00pm	3cr
MTH129 811	Survey of Math	TuTh6-9:00pm	3cr
PSY133 811	Intro. to Psychology	TuTh6-9:00pm	3cr
SPA111 811	Conversational Spanish 1	TuTh6-9:00pm	3cr
HIS150 801	Amer. History to 1865	M/T/W/Th 11:30-12:45pm	3cr
SOC144 801	Intro to Sociology	M/T/W/Th 11:30-12:45pm	3cr

Late Spring Classes at Fort Drum 3/24-5/13/03

ACC102 851	Accounting Principles 2	M/W 6-9:35pm	4cr
ART 115 851	Art Appreciation1	M/W 6-9:00pm	3cr
CIS 110 851	Intro. to Computers	M/W 6-9:35pm	3cr
CRJ205 851	Criminal Investigation 1	M/W 6-9:00pm	3cr
ENG100 851	Composition 1	M/W 6-9:00pm	3cr
ENG101 851	Composition 2	M/W 6-9:00pm	3cr
ENG102 851	Composition & Literature	M/W 6-9:00pm	3cr
GEG101 851	Intro. to World Geog.	M/W 6-9:00pm	3cr
PSY 133 851	Intro. to Psychology	M/W 6-9:00pm	3cr
SOC246 851	Juvenile Delinquency	M/W 6-9:00pm	3cr
BUS160 851	Spreadsheet Applications	TuTh 6-9:35pm	3cr
BUS221 851	Human Resource Mgmt	TuTh 6-9:00pm	3cr
CRJ212 851	Intro. Security Prin/Prac	TuTh 6-9:00pm	3cr
ECO102 851	Microeconomics	TuTh 6-9:00pm	3cr
GEO102 851	Planet Earth	TuTh 6-9:00pm	3cr
HIS112 851	Western Civilization 2	TuTh 6-9:00pm	3cr
MTH144 851	Elementary Statistics	TuTh 6-9:00pm	3cr
POL121 851	Intro. to Amer. Government	TuTh 6-9:00pm	3cr
SOC144 851	Intro. to Sociology	TuTh 6-9:00pm	3cr
HIS151 805	Amer. History since 1865	M/T/W/Th11:30-12:45pm	3cr
SOC241805	Marriage & Family	M/T/W/Th11:30-12:45pm	3cr

Registration for Spring 03

November 4 through December 6

Pre-registration without payment for anyone enrolling for JCC campus or Fort Drum classes. * Online registration will be allowed only for currently (fall semester) students. There will be no special registration dates for graduating seniors.

December 9 until class starts.

Payment will be due at registration.

* Soldiers without a SOCAD agreement must see an Army Education Counselor before registering or preregistering. Soldiers with SOCAD agreements must take only those courses in their degree plans in order to be eligible for tuition assistance.